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To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Testimony: Coffin Butte Expansion
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Greetings!

Note that I am submitting this commentary as a private citizen and not as a member of Corvallis City Council. Also, if your time is short, just skip to the bottom and read the last paragraph headed "Final thought".

Task #1:

In my view the highest priority is to take care of the landfill methane leaks; they are illegal. It seems Title V conditions need much more monitoring and enforcement. What, and how many, entities are responsible for that?

Disincentives:

Do costs outweigh the benefits? Certainly, the revenue is a benefit, but does it truly cover the total, long-term impacts?

I think if all users realized the entire, often hidden, costs that a landfill exacts (emissions, leachate, transportation, regulations, testing, real estate values, materials, livability, and others TBD) versus the benefits, then fair and workable solutions would (hopefully) follow.

Without knowing any better I'm going to guess that our adjoining counties (Marion, Polk, Linn, Lincoln) and possibly others, don't have to worry where their trash ends up. If true, I see that as a major disincentive; they are removed from having to help solve the local situation. How much of this gigantic problem rests solely on Benton's shoulders?

Incentives:

Could greater incentives be helpful?

Having lived downwind (Lewisburg) from Coffin Butte for 20 years (1983-2003) I empathize with my old friends who continue to deal with the outfall of expanding this regional landfill. Their contribution to the landfill is likely miniscule. They are being forced to sacrifice their comfort and livability for the sake of others. Could they be compensated?

Having lived in Corvallis proper before and after this time for 42 years I empathize with my many friends who religiously recycle, reuse, compost, compact, conserve and live sustainably in order to lessen impacts on our shared environment. Their contribution to the landfill is likely miniscule. Not everyone exercises this level of care. Could they be rewarded?

Final thought:

Perhaps you might consider thinking things through as though developing a carbon tax. I'm guessing rates are already variable but **when was the last time rates were fully examined in light of offsetting any portion of the total carbon**

footprint?

Thank you for all you do and best of luck in this very important struggle!

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